

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 15

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Luke
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania service

Wednesday, February 18— Community Night starts

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 5:45 PM Supper-Sloppy Joes, Chips, Applesauce, & Cookies (gluten free/dairy free options available).
- 6:30 PM Children's Singing,
- 6:45 PM Intergenerational Ash Wednesday worship in FH
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study
- 7:00 PM Youth Group

Saturday, February 21

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast—FH

Sunday, February 22

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania service

Upcoming worship service:

- Sunday, March 1—Pastor Luke



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

PO Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114-0291

Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: office@firstmennonitenewton.org

Website: www.firstmennonitenewton.org

Pastoral Team

Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org

Luke Unruh, Pastor—620-386-4596; lukeu@firstmennonitenewton.org

*Pastor Laura and Pastor Luke are in the church office Monday-Thursday.

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr—316-283-0273; office@firstmennonitenewton.org



Come and See

February 15, 2026

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Gathering

Prelude Music
Just as I Am
Choir

Welcome
Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Meditation Music
Gather Us In
Amanda Sauerwein, organist

Call to Worship
Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Songs for worship
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns VT 101
Healer of Our Every Ill VT 644

Listening

Children's Time
Lee Penner

**Children ages 2-5 may leave for supervised play time in Room #234.*

Prayer for Offering—Local Mission
Casson Schmidt

Scripture Reading
John 9:1-41
Casson Schmidt

Sermon
From Explanation to Revelation
Pastor Luke Unruh

Choir
Hold on to the Rock
Ken Regier, soloist

Prayer of the Church
Pastor Laura Goerzen

Sending

Sending Song
See Whose Glory Fills the Skies VT 274

Announcements and Benediction
Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Postlude
The Lord Bless You and Keep you
Choir

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We will be live-streaming our worship beginning at 10:30 AM. You may view it on our webpage (firstmennonitenewton.org), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Today Ryan Koehn, Eric Murphy, and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Choir Conductor: Greg Bontrager; Amanda Sauerwein. Visuals: Carol Goering. Property Committee: Alan Entz

Announcements

Were you baptized at Camp Mennoscah?? If so, did you know that Camp Mennoscah's website is set-up to accept recurring, monthly \$20 donations? With the retreat center just weeks away from completion, your gift of \$20/month for a single year would rebuild our savings account, allowing camp to handle the next unexpected expense. If you would like to be a part of ensuring the financial future of the place that meant so much in your faith journey, please visit www.CampMennoscah.org or text "20" to our office at 620.755.2583

Now accepting submissions for Hesston College's playwriting festival—The Hesston College Theatre department is once again inviting south central Kansas playwrights to turn their stories into live performance through the return of the Pen to Paper to Performance playwriting festival. Open to first-time and experienced writers, the festival celebrates original voices and the creative process from script to stage. The theatre department will accept submissions for the 10-minute play festival through March 8 and notify eight selected playwrights March 15, with their works produced as part of the final showcase event on May 1 and 2. Playwrights whose scripts are selected will receive a percentage of box office earnings. Visit hesston.edu/news for details.

MCC Central States annual meeting—You are invited to the MCC Central States annual meeting on Saturday, March 7, 11:00 AM, at MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117.

Online Registration for the Spring Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat on March 13-15 is open. Register online at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com/> Activities and lodging will be at Main Camp. (The Retreat Center is moving along quickly, but is not quite finished.)

Online Registration for the 2026 Summer Youth Camps is open. The theme for the summer is "In the Wilderness." Through the new, strange and unknown of "wilderness," we will discover the sacred within each person and all creation and meet God there. Summer Youth Camps are for youth in grades 3-12 (Fall 2026). Register at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com/>

Scholarships are available—Due to a generous donor, first-time campers and returning campers bringing a first-time camper will automatically receive a \$100 scholarship until funds are depleted. Please factor this into your payment before paying full camp fees. If Camp Mennoscah has a record of a camper attending previously, staff will contact parents/guardians. Only one scholarship per camper.

The offering for February 22 will be for Local Mission. Offerings can be sent to the church at P.O. Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114. There is also an offering plate in the Gathering Area that will be checked daily if you want to drop your gifts off at church. Please mark the designation of your offering. If left unmarked, it will go to Local Mission. For electronic giving, contact the church office or go to the church website: firstmennonitenewton.org.

Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers every Sunday during Sunday school and worship.

Childcare is available for children ages 2-5 during the worship service. Children of this age will have the opportunity to leave after the "Children's Time" for supervised play time in the Beginner's classroom, Room 234. Parents, please pick your children up promptly following the conclusion of the worship service.

FMC worship attendance for February 8—135; Sunday school—103.

Local Mission offering for February 1 and 8—\$5,420; online Local Mission—\$2,305.

Calling all Hobby Photographers! Earth Day is around the corner and we need some new pictures on our Earth Stewardship Wall in the Gathering Area. Last year the theme was birds. This year, the theme for photos is **rocks, sand, clay/pottery, and/or rock formations** Please email your highest definition photo **by March 15** to Andrea Enns Regier -

Save the date—the next Men's Breakfast will be next Saturday, February 21.

Please check the lost & found tub in the Gathering Area and all the coat racks for items that may be yours. There have been several things left here at the church recently. (coats, bags, walking cane, etc.) **Anything that is still here at the end of February will be donated.**

Team up for Scripture Reading! Grab a friend or family member and share your voices in worship! A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Gathering area. Pastor Laura will contact you with the assigned scripture text.

Come, See, Taste—On Sunday morning, February 22, we will have as our guests, the Bel Canto singers from Hesston College. They are a group of 22 college students. We will host them for a carry-in meal following the service. Please bring food enough for your family and some extra for our guests. Food can be brought to the kitchen prior to Sunday school to be kept warm or cold. Please bring your dishes cooked. Thank you.

For Your Prayers

Join us for Wednesday Community Nights starting February 18! See below for our in-progress schedule and check back for further updates:

- **February 18**
 - Meal 5:45-6:30pm
 - Children's Singing, 6:30-6:45pm
 - Intergenerational Ash Wednesday worship in FH, 6:45-7:30pm
- February 25 - TBD
- March 4 - Game Night
- March 11 - TBD
- March 18 - Spring Break, NO Wednesday evening meal or activities
- March 25 - Zoom with Eli Regier and Sharps

Community Announcements

The reason that Camp Mennoscah was able to immediately begin repairs on the retreat center was because we maintained a healthy reserve fund. But what would happen if a similar repair was needed today? If each of our donor households gave just \$20/month over the next 12 months, our reserve accounts would be replenished and ready to respond to the next emergency building repair. And our website allows you to easily set-up a monthly recurring investment to do just that. Visit CampMennoscah.org, or text "RECURRING" to our Development office at 620-755-2583 to begin the process.

Please join us for the Newton Mid Kansas Symphony Orchestra Winter Classics Concert on Sunday, February 15, 4:00 PM, at Bethel College Memorial Hall. This concert will feature the Dwight Beckham Young Soloist winners, Seth Balzer (Tuba, Bethel College) and Ryan Antle (Horn, Newton High School). Advance tickets for sale online, and at Faith and Life Bookstore. Tickets will also be available the day of the concert at the door. <https://nmkso.org/tickets/>

Do you have opinions and one hour per month to share them? Camp Mennoscah is interested in talking to those with thoughts on camp operations about serving on the Board of Directors. And don't let your lack of experience or knowledge stop you! Diversity of thought is crucial as we work to strengthen camp governance, which means including those with concerns as well as praise, and outside opinions as well as insider knowledge. If you care about Camp Mennoscah at all - or want to - nothing will change if your ideas aren't in the Board room where decisions are made. Text "BOARD" to 620.755.2583 for additional information.

Lunch & Learn at MCC! Tuesday, February 17, 12:00-1:00 PM, join the Global Voices Speaking Tour to hear firsthand stories of the intersection of climate and peace. Speakers Dr. Arefur Rahaman with MCC Bangladesh and David Waiswa with MCC East Africa and Sahel Region will share how they are working toward peace and climate resiliency, especially around food security. **RSVP by February 10** at mcc.org/global-lunch or contact patsydirksen@mcc.org, 316-283-2720. Suggested \$10 donation per lunch.

A Lenten Retreat: *Yearning for Wholeness; Abiding in Hope* on Saturday, February 21, 8:30 AM – Noon at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 South Main Street, Hesston, KS. We live in a time of anxiousness, injustice and chaos. Do you yearn for safe space to be in touch with your inner longings, and to connect with the healing and hope of Christ that sustains us? Join us for a half day retreat which will provide intentional space to experience the presence of God through Scripture, prayer, song and community in this Lenten season. Our schedule will include times of individual reflection and group interaction facilitated by Wendy Miller. Contact the church office at 620-327-4885 or [hesstonmc@hesstonmc.org](mailto:hесstоnmc@hesstonmc.org) to sign up by Thursday, February 19. \$10 donation suggested.

KIPCOR JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM—Bethel and KIPCOR will present the biennial Justice Symposium, on immigration, Wednesday, February 25-Friday, February 27, on and near campus. Keynote speaker is Karen González, a writer, storyteller and immigration advocate who herself migrated from Guatemala as a child. González will give the Peace Lecture February 25 at 7:00 PM, in Kidron Hall at Kidron Bethel Village. Find the schedule at [2026 Justice Symposium & Peace Lecture - KIPCOR](#)